

Zr-xNb

b

Effect of b-phase on the Corrosion and Oxide Characteristics of Zr-xNb Alloys

β Zr-xNb
 5wt.% Nb 1
 가 β $\alpha + \beta_{Nb}$ 570
 500 $\alpha + \beta_{Zr}$ 640 10
 360 water
 TEM low-angle XRD Nb
 가 β β_{Zr}
 β_{Nb} 가 β_{Nb}
 tetra-ZrO₂ β_{Zr}
 tetra-ZrO₂ mono-ZrO₂

Abstract

To investigate the effect of β -phase on the corrosion and oxide characteristics of Zr-xNb alloys, the corrosion and oxide characterization test were performed. The specimens have different Nb content in the range from 1 to 5wt.% which were heat-treated at 570 °C for 500 hours to get the $\alpha + \beta_{Nb}$ phase and at 640 °C for 10 hours to get the $\alpha + \beta_{Zr}$ phase after β -quenching. The specimens were tested in water at 360 °C and the oxide characteristics of corroded sample having equal thickness were investigated by using TEM and low-angle XRD. The corrosion behavior of Zr-xNb alloys affected by the formation of β phase. The corrosion resistance was reduced when the β_{Nb} phase was formed rather than β_{Zr} phase. From the oxide analysis, the β_{Nb} phase would stabilize the columnar structure and tetra-ZrO₂, while the β_{Zr} phase would transfer the columnar into the equiaxed structure and accelerate the transformation from the tetra-ZrO₂ to mono-ZrO₂.

1.

Zr

가 가

Zircaloy-4 PWR

가 , Zircaloy-4

[1-4].

Nb 가 Nb 가

Zr-based , Nb 가

[5,6]. β

β_{Zr} 가 β_{Nb} [7,8]. Zr-

based β

Zr β

, Nb 1~5 wt.% 가 β_{Nb}

570 500 , β_{Zr} 640

10 β (β_{Nb} β_{Zr})

TEM, XRD

2.

2 Zr Nb

1~5wt.% , 1 VAR

400g button ingot

1020 20min β -quenching β_{Nb}

570 500 , β_{Zr} 640

10 TEM-EDS

SiC

HF(5%), HNO₃(45%), H₂O(50%) pickling

360 18MPa 가 static autoclave

가

TEM

low-angle XRD 20

mg/dm² 가 , 가

TEM

, polishing ion-milling

Low-angle XRD

2°

3.

3.1

1 Nb
 570 640 Nb
 Nb 가 β Nb 가 Ms 가 2
 Martensite plate [9].
 Nb 가
 2 가
 Nb 가 , TEM
 2 α+β_{Nb} 570 500 α+β_{Zr}
 640 10 needle 2
 3 570 500
 640 10 Zr-3.0Nb
 2 , EDS SAD pattern
 β_{Nb} α+β_{Nb} 570
 β_{Zr} α+β_{Zr} 640 elongated

3.2 Nb 가

4 Nb 가
 가 4 (a) 570 cubic rate 가 가
 , 90 . 4
 (b) 640 , Nb 가 가 가
 가 5 Zr-xNb Nb 가 가
 , Nb
 Nb 가 Zr β
 640 β_{Zr} 570 β_{Nb}
 β_{Zr} 가

3.3

TEM

[10-12]. TEM

6 Zr-3.0Nb

570

640

2 β 7 8 β

7 570 P1, P2 P3 β EDS

Nb Zr O

β_{Nb} α 가

SAD 가

8 640 Zr-3.0Nb /

EDS Zr O

가 Nb O

EDS β_{Zr}

Low - angle XRD

Zr PBW(pilling-bedworth ratio)가

1.56

tetra-ZrO₂가 tetra-ZrO₂ [13]. 9

tetra-ZrO₂ mono-ZrO₂ peak

10 tetra-ZrO₂

tetra-ZrO₂ β_{Nb} 570

, β_{Zr} 640

β_{Zr} 가

4.

Nb 가

β

1.

β_{Zr}

β_{Nb}

2.

β_{Nb}

tetra-ZrO₂

β_{Zr}

tetra-ZrO₂

mono-ZrO₂

References

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Table 1. Alloy composition and heat-treatment of Zr-Nb binary alloys

Alloy	Heat - treatment
Zr - xNb (x= 1.0, 1.5, 2.0, 3.0, 5.0 wt.%)	(a) 570 x500hr ($\alpha+\beta_{Nb}$ region) (b) 640 x10hr ($\alpha+\beta_{Zr}$ region)

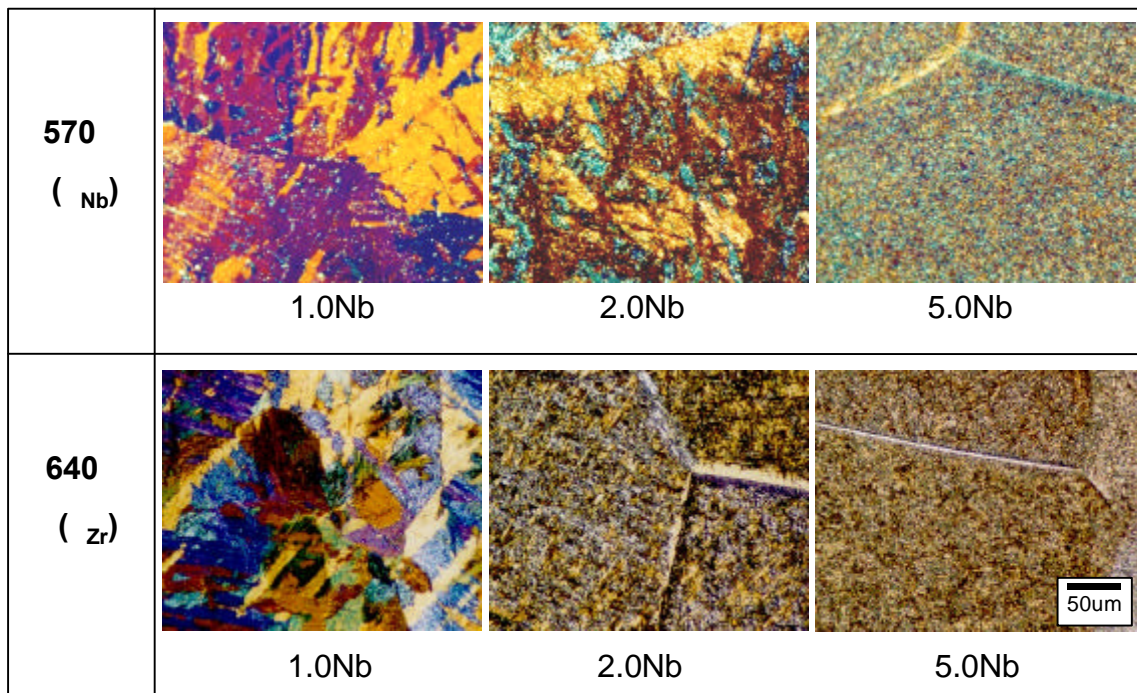


Fig.1 Microstructures of Zr-xNb alloys with annealing temperature at 570 for 500hr and at 640 for 10hr

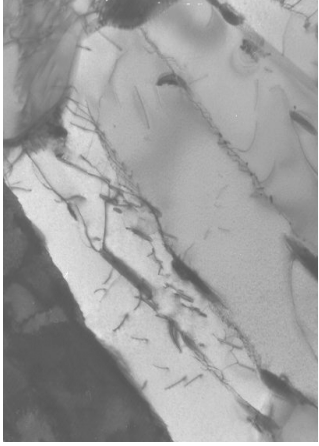
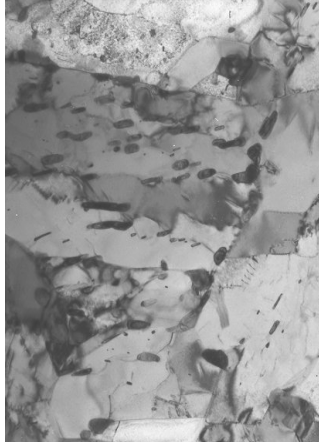
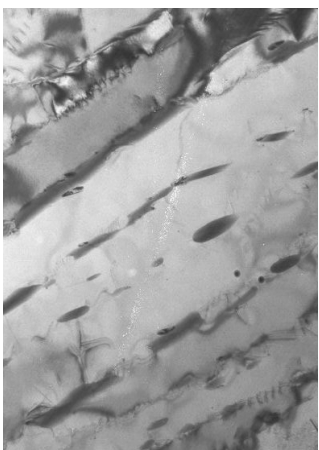

<p>570 (Nb)</p>		
<p>640 (Zr)</p>		
	<p>1.0Nb</p>	<p>3.0Nb</p>

Fig.2 TEM micrographs of Zr-xNb alloys with annealing temperature at 570 °C for 500hr and at 640 °C for 10hr

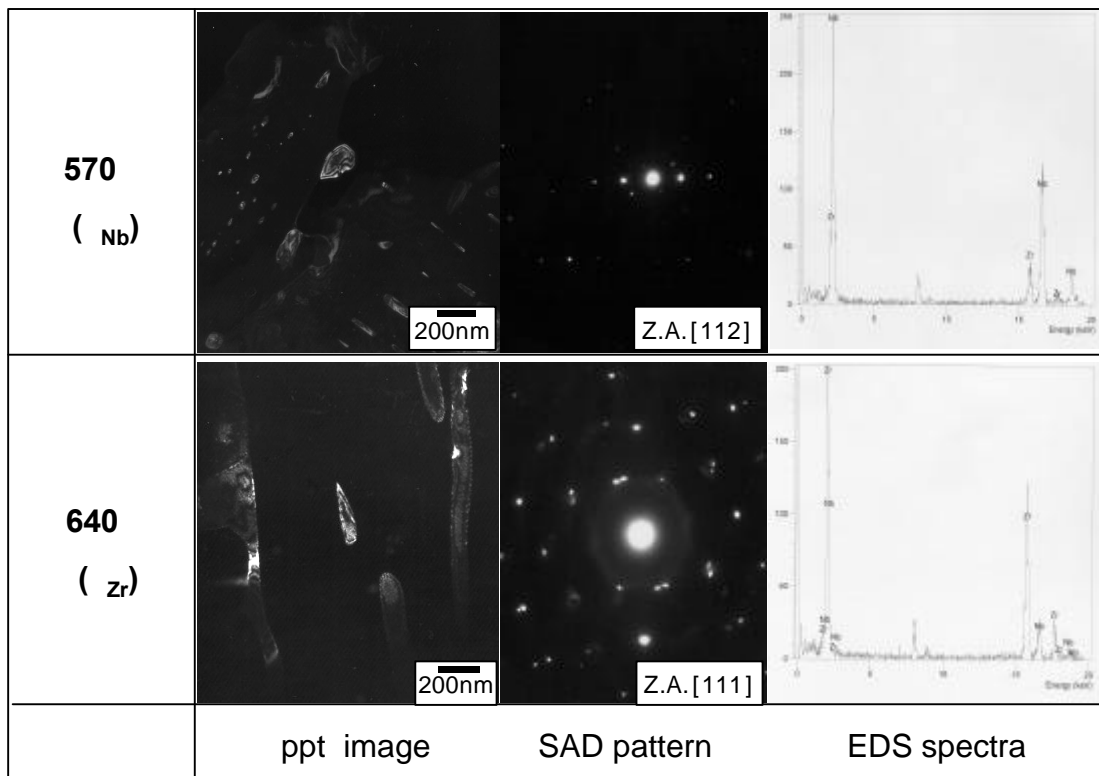


Fig.3 Second phase precipitates in Zr-3.0Nb alloys with annealing temperature at 570 °C for 500hr and at 640 °C for 10hr

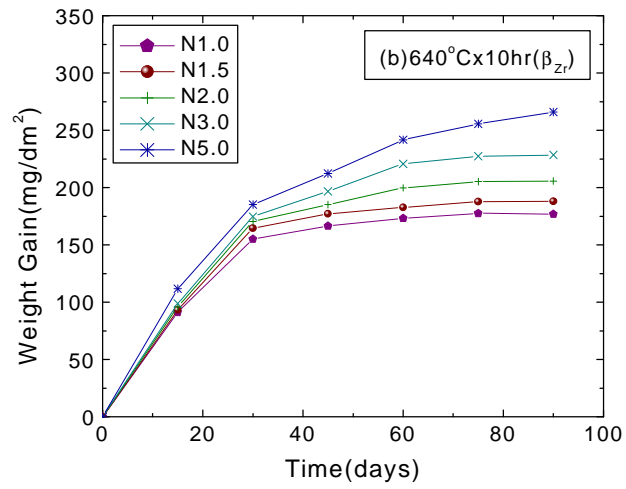
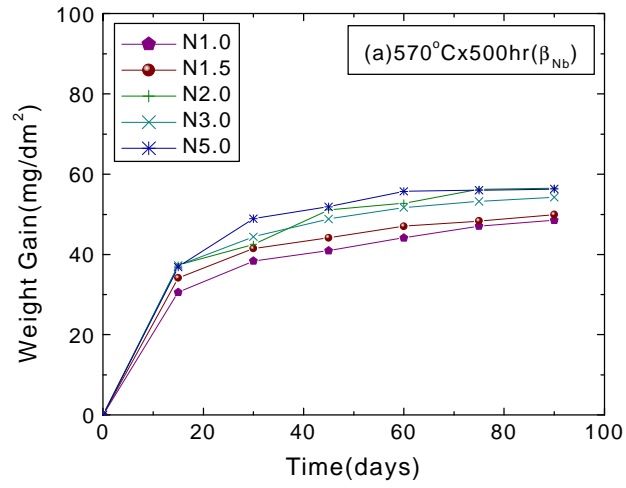


Fig.4 Corrosion behaviors of Zr-xNb alloys at 360 in water

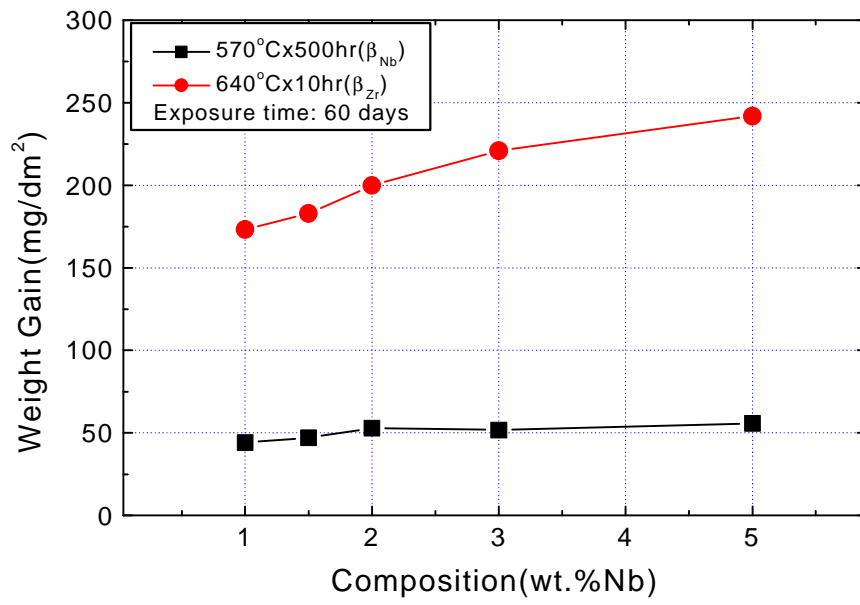
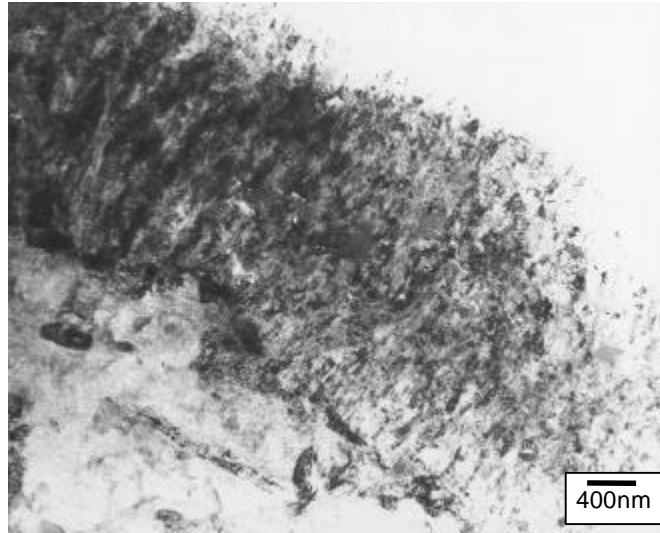
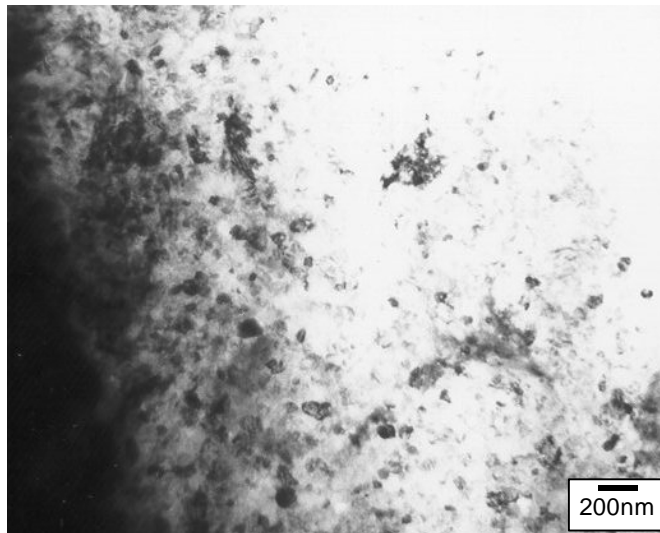


Fig.5 Corrosion behaviors of Zr-xNb alloys at 360 in water for 60 days



(a) 570 (Nb)



(b) 640 (zr)

Fig.6 Cross-sectional TEM micrographs of zirconium-oxide at pre-transition on Zr-3.0Nb alloys

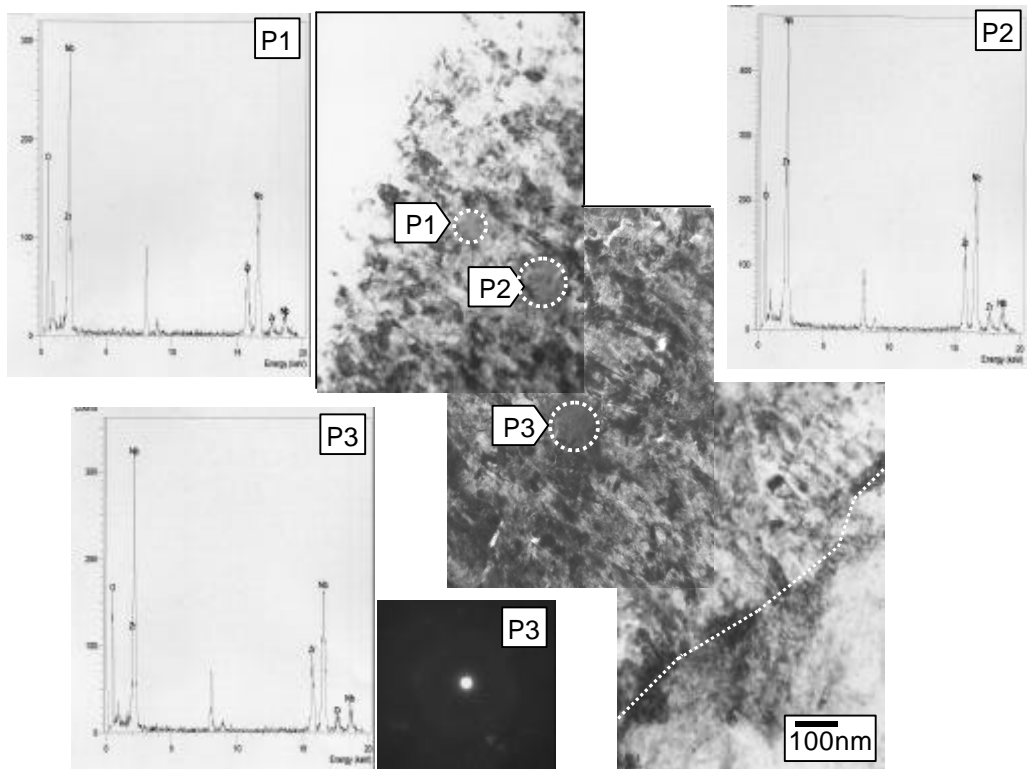


Fig.7 Cross-sectional TEM micrographs and EDS spectra of zirconium-oxide at pre-transition on Zr-3.0Nb alloys(β_{Nb} annealing)

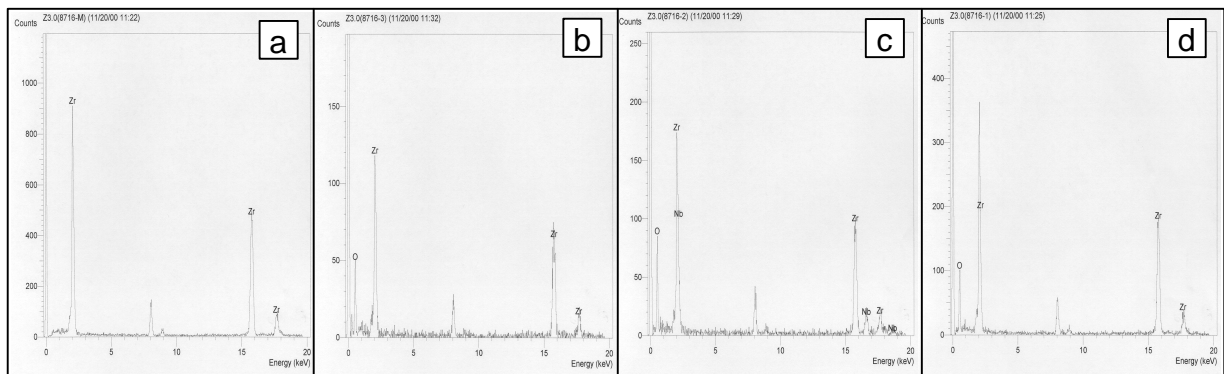
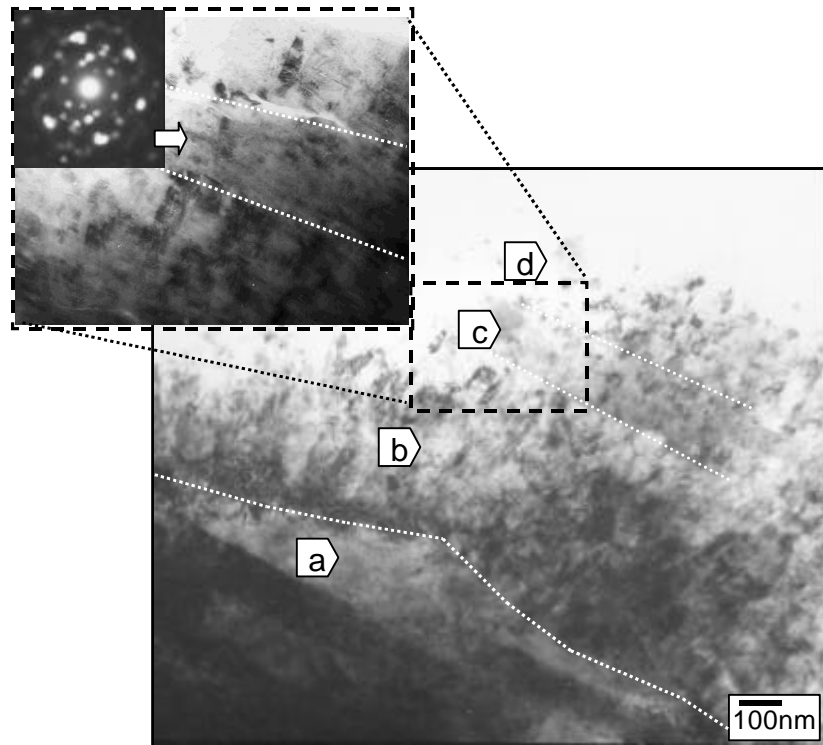


Fig.8 Cross-sectional TEM micrographs and EDS spectra of zirconium-oxide at pre-transition on Zr-3.0Nb alloys(β_{Zr} annealing)

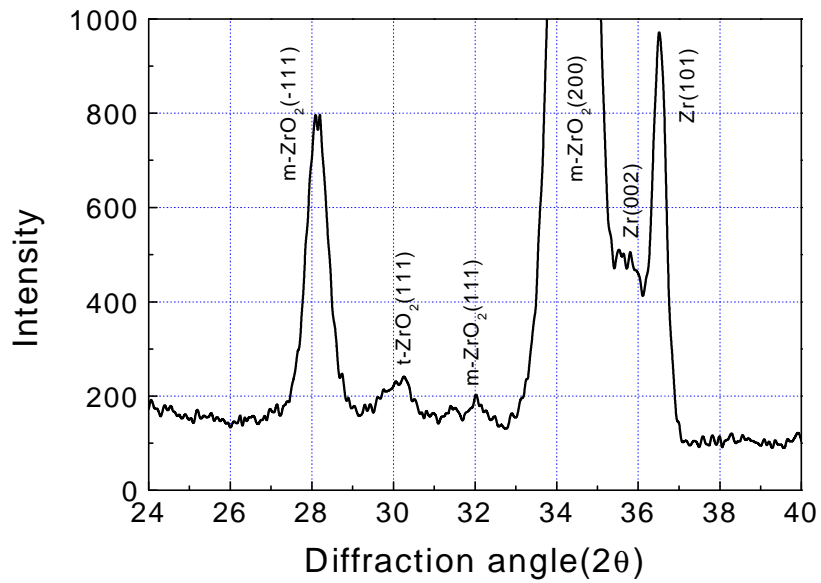


Fig.9 Diffraction pattern on zirconium oxide at equal weight gain formed in water at 360 about Zr-1.0Nb alloys

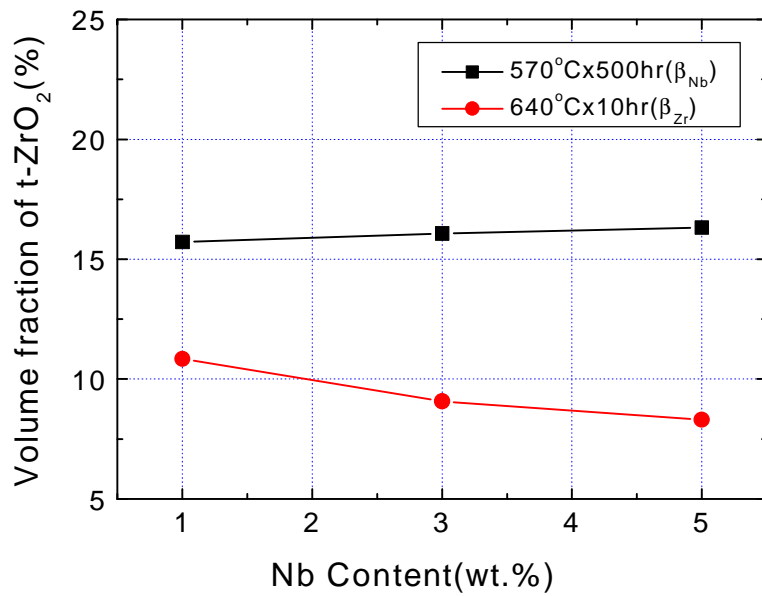


Fig.10 Volume fraction of tetra-ZrO₂ at equal weight gain of zirconium oxide at pre-transition